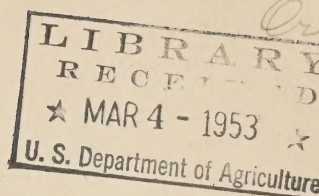


Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

2.17
Presner, Samuel L.

=1953



ORCHID PLANTS FOR EASTER, MOTHER'S DAY, MEMORIAL DAY AND GRADUATION DAY

Two of the best Cattleya Orchids that I know of that bloom during the four important holidays during March, April, May and June are Cattleya Mossiae and Cattleya Gaskelliana.

MOSSIAE blooms heaviest between Easter and Mother's day. The flower is large, averaging 6 to 8 inches, and the color runs from rose, to pink to lavender, with bright striped lips. They are very fragrant and good producers of fine flowers. They have a habit of often blooming on dry sheaths, so do not worry if sheaths turn dry on your Mossiae plants.

Mossiaes originally came from Venezuela, but can no longer be imported due to government restriction of that country. For this reason they have become scarce in the past 3 years and more expensive. I can supply but a limited amount, so if you want one order at once.

GASKELLIANA orchids are in my opinion the most vigorous and robust grower of all the specie orchids in the cattleya family. Its growing habit is different also. Gaskellianas usually begin new growth about January or February, and then grows like mad for the next 90 days and trys to bloom for Easter. If you give the plant maximum light and water it will usually do so, or it may decide not to bloom after all for Easter. Then it does an amazing thing. For if it does not bloom for Easter it will immediately begin to make new growth and here again it will grow like mad for the next 60 to 90 days, and will then bloom in June or July. Most all authorities agree that the June-July season is the plant's normal blooming season. Yet, the plant will often bloom twice a year because of this strange habit of growth. I have some magnificent specimens of these in limited supply so order early for the best selection.

PRICES ON MOSSIAES AND GASKELLIANAS ARE THE SAME FOR EACH

1-Sheath Plants, \$9 to \$10 each — 2 Sheath Plants \$12 to \$15 each

3-Sheath Plants, \$15 to \$18 each — 4 Sheath Plants \$18 to \$21 each

5-Sheath Plants, \$23 to \$25 each — 6 Sheath Plants \$30 to \$35 each

(Larger Plants. \$40 to \$50 each, in 7 to 10 Sheaths)*

*These are in scarce supply always.

{ Important: If I am out of a certain size, will you permit me to send you a slightly
smaller or a slightly larger plant and credit you or bill you for the difference? }

Mossiaes and Gaskellianas often produce 2 to 4 flowers per sheath so large plants make magnificent specimens. Please order well before Easter, if possible, as these are scarce plants and you will avoid being disappointed if you do.

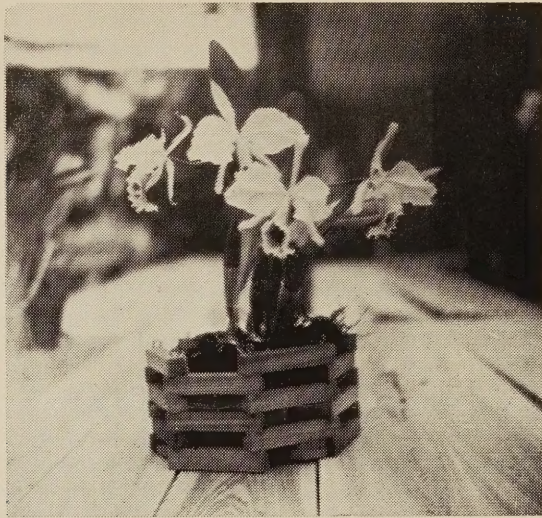
JUST A FEW PURE WHITE ORCHIDS AVAILABLE. Most of these will bloom for Easter or by Mother's day, so order at once. Prices on White Orchids are 17.50 to \$25 for nice plants. These will average 1 to 2 sheaths. These are all famous hybrids of the finest types. They are very prolific and if not divided too soon will make a lot of flowers every year. Some may even bloom twice yearly, as this is a common trait with fine white hybrids.

SAMUEL L. PRESNER

P. O. Box 4550

Coral Gables, Florida

GROWING ORCHID PLANTS IN TROPICAL WOODEN RAFTS



Growing orchids in wooden rafts such as shown above has several advantages. First, of course, the plants are more attractive and tropical looking. Secondly, it permits a fine circulation of air around the root system of the plant which orchids love. And third, it is almost impossible to overwater a plant when grown in this manner.

Orchids require more water when grown in wooden rafts since they dry out more rapidly. If the plant is grown in the home or greenhouse they will require water about once every 5 days. But if grown outdoors or in open patios or trees they will take about two waterings a week.

These orchid rafts are beautifully and expertly made especially for me. Only the finest California Redwood or Florida Cypress is used, since both are resistant to rot and water. Then I dip each raft into a chemical bath to further treat it against fungus diseases. It is therefore, not unusual for rafts of this nature to last for 10 to 20 years!

They are currently available in the following (approximate) sizes. All sizes are inside dimensions. This means the full size raft is almost 2 inches larger overall.

Square rafts — 4½" inside — \$2.00 each

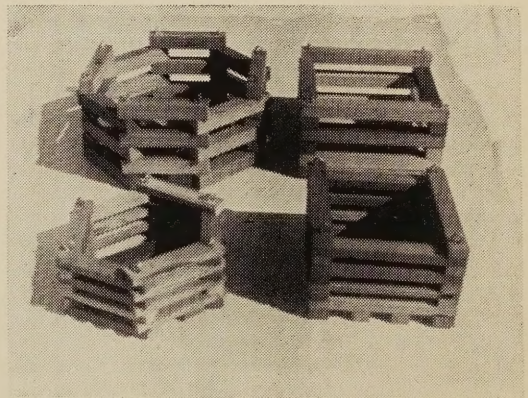
Square rafts — 5½" inside — 2.50 each

Square rafts — 8" inside — 3.50 each

Square rafts — 10" inside — 4.00 each

Octagon rafts — 4½" inside — 2.75 each

Octagon rafts — 8" inside — 4.25 each



Rafts are very heavy but I will PREPAY all orders of \$5 or more. If you order 6 rafts of one kind or assorted, I will include a seventh raft FREE — in any size you select!

"ORCHIDS" IN MY MAIL

Dear Mr. Presner:

I received my orchids, safe and sound. I am well pleased with my plants and the selection you made was very good.

Dr. T. O. Richert,
Spokane, Wash.

Dear Mr. Presner:

The orchid plant arrived in first class shape, and the flowers began to open a few days after it arrived. I have been very pleased with it, and my home has been like Grand Central Station since the word got around that the flowers were opening.

Thomas E. Arline,
Bainbridge, Ga.

Dear Mr. Presner:

The Laelia Cattleya Canhamiana you sent us bloomed in May. Needless to say we are more than delighted with it. The plant occupied a place of honor in our living room while my wife's garden club and our neighbors and friends filed past to examine it. We are certainly grateful to you for sending us such a fine plant.

N. D. Harris,
Lakeland, Fla.

Dear Sir:

Thank you very much for the information on Orchid Growing. It is the first understandable literature for a "beginner" that I have come across, and I have been looking for over a year.

Mrs. J. L. Fratus,
Glens Falls, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for the beautiful Cattleya which arrived in good condition. It seemed to have enjoyed the trip.

Mrs. John Nelson,
Groton, Conn.

Dear Mr. Presner:

Sometime in March I ordered a Cattleya Orchid plant from you. I received same and put it in a five inch pot as you directed. The plant has bloomed. It had 6 beautiful flowers and they lasted about a month.

Lawrence Hichman,
Bishopville, Md.

Dear Mr. Presner:

Thank you for the lovely orchid you shipped to my daughter Mrs. Gregory in Cincinnati, last February. You will be interested to know that the plant has thrived and had two lovely flowers on it, one of which she wore to church on Easter Sunday. Most gratefully yours.

Mrs. C. F. Stoltz,
Dayton, Ohio

Dear Sir:

I received the Orchid plants in the best of shape. I believe they are the best plants I have ever received.

Fred Foster,
Kansas City, Kans.

Dear Mr. Presner:

We received our Gaskelliana from you last spring and it bloomed Memorial day. 3 lovely orchid colored blooms. We were thrilled with it. It has developed a nice lead and is doing very well in our dry climate.

Dr. R. D. Kercher,
Denver, Colorado

Dear Sir:

Some time ago the thrill and pleasure of receiving four real nice big healthy Cattleya Orchid plants from you, was all mine!

Since that time, people have admired the plants and I gave them all away.

Your recent pamphlet on Orchids in the home is on my desk and I am sending you \$40 for your collection "D".

Ralph Bower,
Akron, Ohio

Dear Mr. Presner:

My orchids arrived in excellent condition and am greatly pleased with them. I am enclosing check for \$58 for which send me one Tampense and your collection "D".

Elizabeth A. Haigh,
Dearborn, Mich.

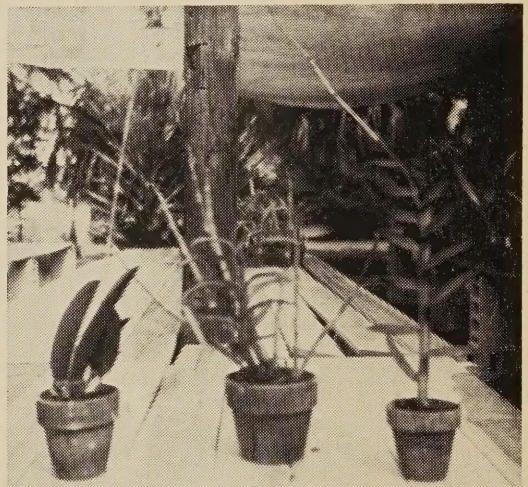
UNUSUAL ORCHID PLANTS AND RARITIES

Pictured on this page are a few unusual orchid plants one seldom associates with orchids. Most people, when you mention orchids to them, think of the large, fine Cattleya orchids which we see chiefly in corsages. Yet, in the field of orchids we have over 600 genuses and around 25,000 variations. Many of these oddities have flowers not much larger than the head of a pin. Others have unique foliage or odd ways of flowering.

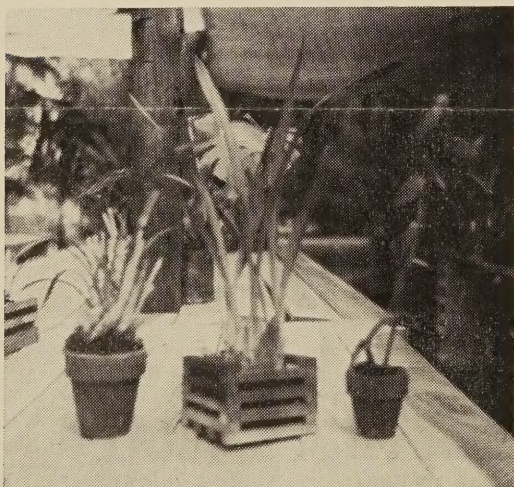
In the trade we call these "botanicals" as their chief interest lies in their oddity. Many of the flowers are exquisite and unlike anything you have ever seen. I seldom list botanicals since they are chiefly "collector's items." However, if you are interested in them, you can get a flying start with my "Jungle Collection." The botanicals are hardier than most orchids, very simple to grow in the home, and the color variation is endless. Many are highly fragrant, and some come in brilliant red, pink, brown, yellow, spotted, green, maroon, cream, white, etc. Most of these make small flowers on long sprays, but here and there we find a few with a large flower. I am showing a few of these so that you may see how different than the usual cattleya foliage they are.



Left is a Brassavola. Center and right are two different types of Oncidiums.



Left is an Oncidium. Center is a Dendrobium and right is an Epidendrum Radicans.



Left is a Cymbidium. Center is another type Oncidium, and right is the Vanilla Orchid which grows as a vine.



Here are three kinds of Vandas. Left is a Terete type. Center is semi-terete type and right is a strap leaf type.

All Photos by Samuel L. Presner, P. O. Box 4550, Coral Gables, Florida

SPECIAL OFFER ON ORCHID PLANT COLLECTIONS

Collection SSF — \$30.00

This will include a group of three fine Cattleya Orchid plants to bloom this spring, summer and fall. Flowers will average 6 to 8 inches on all these plants. This offer is limited for immediate acceptance.

Collection "Jungle" — \$25.00

I include 4 unusual Jungle plants, with odd flowers and unusual foliage. These will be shipped in special pots or in wooden rafts, assorted. These are small flowering kinds and colors will vary from pink, cream, yellow, green, etc.

FREE GIFT OFFER FOR PROMPTNESS

Send your order in promptly and I will include a beautiful, blooming size Air plant with every order!

SPECIAL OFFER: Collection SSF and Collection "Jungle" — only \$50! You save \$5 on this offer and I will include FREE 4 assorted air plants, all of blooming size.

WINTER BLOOMING PLANTS NOW AT BARGAIN PRICES — \$5 to \$10 for choice plants. All will bloom next winter. All in a fine state of health.

Want something really GORGEOUS? Then try one of my dark Laelia Cattleyas. Flowers average 8 to 9 inches in size. The petals and sepals are wavy, rose colored, with huge, dark velvet-like wine colored lips and throats. This is an unusual and very frilly type of flower. Good bloomers and big growers. They often flower more than once a year and only 25 are on hand. \$15 to \$25 a plant.

WHITE ORCHIDS — These continue to be scarce. I have a few very fine ones on hand in sheath. They should bloom around Easter or Mother's day. \$17.50 to \$25 for a nice one or two sheath plant. Some of these will bloom freely several times a year, as this is a trait with many whites.

GOLDEN ORCHIDS with ruby lips — only 33 C. Dowiana Aureas \$15.00 each. These normally bloom Sept. Some of these will bloom this September and the rest the following year. Small, but beautifully grown plants, coming into bloom for the first time.

BRONZE-LIPPED ORCHIDS. I am releasing about 2 dozen divisions of my famous NO. 87 Hybrid. These are 3 to 4 bulb divisions of mature stock. They should bloom on new growth. Some of these are so good they will be worth \$75 in bloom. Take a chance and get one for \$15.00 now. You will never go wrong on this rare and famous cross. I consider this a free bloomer as I have bloomed this in seven different months of the year!

MISCELLANEOUS ORCHID SUPPLIES

OSMUNDA FIBRE:

Also known as fern root. This is used for potting most orchid plants. I handle only the finest top quality yellow-brown. \$1.50 a lb. postpaid, or 5 lbs. for \$7.00 postpaid. It costs me 41c a lb. less the box to ship a single pound to some states, hence I cannot accept orders for less than 4 lbs. for osmunda alone. With other orders for goods you may order in single pound lots.

WHITE CELLULOID TAGS

50 tags for \$2.00 postpaid.

INSECTICIDE SPRAY FOR ORCHIDS (best for scale)

A 3 oz. supply is \$1.25 postpaid. Highly concentrated. Dilute with 3 gallons of water for a very economical spray.

ORCHID BOOKS:

Samuel Presner's 3rd Ed. of "Grow Real Orchids In Your Home" only .50 a copy prepaid. Just 24 pages of orchid information sufficient to get anyone growing them successfully. In use in many of the leading Universities as a text book on Orchids.

Rebecca Northern's book, "Home Orchid Growing"—\$7.00 a copy prepaid. A fine work. 285 pages, with 122 black and white pictures with 11 full color plates. In my opinion the very best orchid book on the market today. Complete in every detail.

ORCHID POTTING STICK

An aluminum, rust proof, rubber-griped orchid potting stick, designed by yours truly after trying dozens of kinds. Perfectly balanced to combat fatigue. Offers a firm grip and excellent leverage. 12" in length.



{ Only \$2.65 postpaid. }
{ Dealers write for }
{ quantity prices }

CYPRESS WOOD KNEES FOR MOUNTING ORCHIDS

Most orchids love to grow on wood, so for lovely decorative effects I can supply beautiful polished pieces of cypress roots in all sizes from 15 inches to 3 feet. Prices start at \$5 for an average 15 inch length. This wood is rot proof since it grows in water. Here you see a lovely specimen which I have mounted with a *Laelia Anceps*. If you would like such a knee complete with a plant I can supply them for \$10. I also include a few air plants mounted with the plant for attractive effect. I can also mount these for you with several different kinds of orchids on a single knee for \$15 to \$20 per specimen.



AIR PLANTS

I can supply a nice assortment group of air plants for \$5 a collection of 4 to 5 nice plants. Most of these will bloom this summer. I can also supply special specimen air plants growing on wood, as found in their natural state. Such specimens often have 10 to 100 air plants, depending on size, growing on a single limb. Prices start at \$5 for a nice specimen, with 3 or 4 nice plants averaging about 3 to 5 inches per plant. Heavy specimens will run to smaller sizes. Giant specimens picked by special request in any size desired.

CICERO HOUSEWIFE BECOMES A CELEBRITY

Mrs. Zarobsky Grows An Orchid

Mrs. Zarobsky of Cicero, Illinois, likes to grow things. In her small but attractive sun parlor you will find hugh house plants, trailing vines, and many flowering plants, including Orchids. To walk into her sun parlor on a winter's day is like a breath of spring.

When Mrs. Zarobsky flowered her first Orchid, much to the delight of her family and the amazement of her friends, she became Cicero's most glamorous citizen, because for generations people have been led to believe that the growing of Orchids by the average person in the average home was impossible.

There are only two kinds of people who cannot grow orchids in their homes. One is an Eskimo living in an igloo at the North Pole; the other is a Cliff Dweller living in the recesses of a dark cave. Orchids need a spot near a window where they can get some light. They need protection against freezing. Since the average home has windows and is heated in the winter, it is suitable for Orchids.

You can grow and flower Orchids in your home if you will give them the simple and reasonable care they require. Mrs. Zarobsky did not know an Orchid from an Onion plant when she purchased a few plans from me. Yet, within a few months she flowered her Orchid plant and since then has ordered and is successfully growing many of them. Mrs. Zarobsky pioneered Orchid growing in Cicero, and you can do so in your town. You need only a bit of Mrs. Zarobsky's pioneering spirit! My instruction pamphlets will help show you the way. You cannot fail, and you may always write me for any special advice if needs be.

SAMUEL PRESNER

"Specializing In Orchid Plants Exclusively"

Box 4550

Coral Gables, Florida



MRS. ZAROBSKY WRITES:

"My small collection is doing quite well, and C. Mossiae had 2 beautiful blooms in May which lasted 3 weeks and were very fragrant. It was news in this town so our local paper printed a picture, copy of which I am forwarding by separate folder."

from

address

city

zone

state



BOX 4550

• ORCHIDS •

CORAL GABLES, FLA.

Samuel L. Presner

ORDER BLANK

Samuel L. Presner
P. O. Box 4550
Coral Gables, Fla.
Dear Mr. Presner:

Sorry, due to increasing costs of packing and shipping, no orders can be filled for less than \$5 (assorted).

I enclose check, money order or cash in the sum of \$_____. Please ship the order below via

☐ Railway Express

Parcel Post ☐

My Name _____ My Address _____

City _____ State _____

Unless otherwise noted all plant orders are shipped via railway express collect, unless you wish a parcel post shipment, in which case include sufficient postage for shipping and packing (about \$1 extra per plant). Where possible, especially in freezing weather, it is safer to ship via express. On large and bulky shipping there will be a small, additional packing charge which I will bill you for at cost. While I guarantee every plant I ship you to be healthy and free from disease, I cannot obviously guarantee the prolificacy of the plants once out of my hands as I cannot control the conditions which you will be growing the plants.

